

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652, N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SOVIET RETALIATION AGAINST POSTPONEMENT
OF KIROV BALLET TOUR

1. NIEFELD OF COLUMBIA ARTISTS MANAGEMENT, INC. (CAMI)
NOTIFIED DEPARTMENT JANUARY 21 THAT ROZHDESTVENSKIY WILL
NOT VISIT US AS GUEST CONDUCTOR JANUARY 22-30 AS PLANNED
(MOSCOW 0839). ACCORDING TO NIEFELD, ROZHDESTVENSKIY
CANCELLED TOUR "BECAUSE OF TERRIBLE POLITICAL SITUATION
IN US." CAMI THINKS DECISION MADE BY MINCULT, NOT BY
ROZHDESTVENSKIY PERSONALLY.
2. NIEFELD ANTICIPATES WILL BE NECESSARY CANCEL BOLSHOI/
PLISETSKAYA TOUR BECAUSE CONTRACT, WHICH DUE JANUARY 21,
NOT YET RECEIVED FROM SOVIETS.
3. CAMI SUSPECTS THAT CANCELLATION OF ROZHDESTVENSKIY TOUR

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AND DELAY IN BOLSHOI CONTRACT INDICATE OFFICIAL DISFAVOR

AS RESULT OF CAMI'S POSTPONEMENT OF KIROV TOUR, LINK OF CANCELLATION OF ROZHDESTVENSKIY TOUR WITH KIROV TOUR'S POSTPONEMENT IS SUPPORTED BY STATEMENT OF SOVIET CULTURAL COUNSELOR TO DEPARTMENT JANUARY 21: "AFTER CANCELLATION OF KIROV TOUR, MOOD OF OUR PEOPLE IS NOT VERY GOOD; IF US ORGANIZATIONS ARE CREATING SUCH ATMOSPHERE, WE DO NOT CARE; THEY WON'T GET OUR ATTRACTIONS." REQUEST EMBASSY SEEK CLARIFICATION OF SOVIET INTENTIONS. KISSINGER

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